

## **Minutes of the Tuesday, June 24, 2025 Park Slope Food Coop General Meeting**

The monthly General Meeting (GM) of the Park Slope Food Coop was held at the Prospect Park Picnic House on Tuesday, June 24, 2025, beginning at 8:40 p.m., during a pause in the Annual Meeting. A few weeks beforehand, an announcement about the scheduled meeting and the agenda were posted on the PSFC website, foodcoop.com, inviting members to participate. Chair Committee members David Moss and Maribeth Batcha served as chair and secretary.

### **Results of the Referendum to Amend the Coop Bylaws to Allow for Hybrid Meetings**

The chair read out the following results of a referendum the Coop held (text is included below) from June 4 – 22, 2025.

Total votes cast: 6,504

Yes votes: 4,321 (66.43%)

No votes: 2,183 (33.56%)

The vote to amend the bylaws failed to reach the required two-thirds majority (66.67%)

*Proposal to make all General Meetings hybrid—both in-person and online—through amending the PSFC Bylaws, Article VI, Sections 2 and 4, by appending the following: "Presence and gathering at meetings shall be by physical presence and by virtual presence consistent with New York Business Corporation Law Section 708(c). Meetings may be entirely virtual if a physical gathering is not feasible." The Coop will begin holding hybrid General Meetings within three months of this proposal's passing. The proposal's sponsors will finalize protocols for hybrid General Meetings, in cooperation with the Chair Committee, the GM squad, and PSFC staff. This proposal may require the GM squad to create additional work slots to facilitate hybrid meetings.*

### **Agenda item 1 - Proposal: Renewing the Services of the Auditor**

General Manager Joe Holtz introduced the item. After discussion, the meeting voted unanimously by show of hands in favor of a motion to retain the services of Cornick, Garber & Sandler, LLP to perform the audit and tax return preparation for the fiscal year ending February 1, 2026.

### **General Coordinators' report**

General Coordinator Elinor Astrinsky made a report, which included recent refrigeration issues and repairs, an update on the disruption experienced by supplier United Natural Foods because of a cyberattack and staff new hires and resignations.

The meeting briefly adjourned at 9:00 p.m. to reconvene the Annual Meeting to report on the board of directors' election results. The General Meeting then reconvened at 9:01 p.m. and proceeded to agenda item 2.

### **Agenda item 2 – Election of Officers of the Corporation: President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary**

Nominations from the floor were made for Coop Officers, after which the meeting voted using paper ballots. Board member Brandon West was elected President. Board member Tess Brown-

Lavoie was elected Vice President. General Manager Joe Szladek was elected Treasurer. Member Elizabeth Tobier was elected Secretary. All officer terms are for one year. The reported election results are listed below.

Officer category	Name	Yes votes	No votes
President	Brandon West	190	24
Vice President	Tess Brown-Lavoie	152	35
Treasurer	Joe Szladek	181	5
Secretary	Elizabeth Tobier	140	41

### **Open Forum**

While the meeting awaited the officers' election ballot counting to finish, the members brought forth open forum items. Topics raised included the reason for the two-thirds requirement applied to the referendum on amending the Coop bylaws to allow for hybrid meetings and a request to recount the paper ballots cast, the demographic survey currently being made, discussion of agenda items coming in future GMs, criticism made toward General Manager Joe Holtz and concerns that disabled members are unable to attend GMs. The meeting discussed the items.

### **Presentation of Minutes**

Coop secretary Elizabeth Tobier presented the minutes of the April 29, 2025 GM and the May 27, 2025 GM, which were both approved by general consent.

### **Board of Directors' Meeting**

Board of Directors' meeting was chaired by Brandon West. Four board members were present: Tim Hospodar, Joe Szladek, Keyian Vafai, and Brandon West. Tess Brown-Lavoie and Lynn Husum were absent. All members of the board present voted in favor of accepting the advice of the members on the minutes of the April 29, 2025 General Meeting. All members of the board present voted in favor of accepting the advice of the members on the minutes of the May 27, 2025 General Meeting. All members of the board present voted in favor of accepting the advice of the members on item 1, "Renewing the Services of the Auditor." All members of the board present voted in favor of accepting the advice of the members on item 2, the election of the officers of the corporation. The board tabled, until the July 2025 GM, a vote on whether to accept the advice of the members on the referendum to amend the Coop bylaws to allow for hybrid meetings, to enable a recount of the paper ballots cast.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.



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Elizabeth Tobier, Secretary  
Park Slope Food Coop  
Brooklyn, NY  
July 11, 2025  
(Approved by the July 29, 2025 PSFC GM)